

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Taisuke HIROOKA and Hironobu TSUBOTA	International Application No.: PCT/JP2005/008792
Serial No.: Unknown	International Filing Date: May 13, 2005
Filed: Concurrently herewith	
For: SUBSTRATE FOR THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SUBSTRATE	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, and in recognition of their duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office relevant information known to be material to patentability, Applicants herewith submit the attached Form PTO-1449. Reference Nos. 4, 6, and 7 were cited in the attached International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/JP2005/008792.

The relevance of Reference No. 8 is discussed on pages 8 and 9 of the substitute specification filed concurrently herewith.

Reference Nos. 1-3 and 9 are additional references that Applicants are submitting herewith.

Reference No. 1 is the U.S. equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 1899891 cited on page 8 of the substitute specification filed concurrently herewith.

Reference No. 2 is the U.S. equivalent of Japanese Patent No. 1659501 cited on page 8 of the substitute specification filed concurrently herewith.

Reference No. 3 is the U.S. equivalent of Reference No. 6 cited on page 8 of the substitute specification filed concurrently herewith.

Applicants do not submit herewith copies of the U.S. references as this is no longer required.

The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Applicants respectfully request that the cited references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 7, 2005


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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Taisuke HIROOKA
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	60303.55/ok

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4,796,127	01-1989	Wada et al.	
	2	4,814,915	03-1989	Wada et al.	
	3	6,277,506	08-2001	Okamoto	
	4	2004/0066575	04-2004	Hirooka	
	5	2005/0024772	02-2005	Tsubota	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code*Number-Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Country of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	6	JP 11-339229 (English Abstract and machine translation)	12-1999	JAPAN		x
	7	JP 2004-127442 (English Abstract and machine translation)	04-2004	JAPAN		x
	8	JP 11-283221 (English Abstract and machine translation)	10-1999	JAPAN		x
	9	JP 2000-260009 (English Abstract and machine translation)	09-2000	JAPAN		x

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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.

¹ Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.